EXPRESS MAIL LABEL
ATTORNEY MATTER N 3623-00140

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- A method for coating an implantable device, comprising the acts of: tumbling at least one implantable device; and introducing a coating substance to the tumbling implantable device to coat the implantable device with the coating substance.
 - 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the implantable device is a stent.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the implantable device is tumbled in a coating pan.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the implantable device is tumbled in a coating pan by tilting the coating pan at an angle less than or equal to about 90 degrees with respect to a horizontal plane and rotating the coating pan about a rotating axis.
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the pan is tilted at about 45 degrees with respect to the horizontal plane.
- 6. The method of claim 4, wherein the pan is rotated between about 5 revolutions per minute (rpm) and about 400 rpm about the rotating axis.
- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein coating substance is sprayed on to the tumbling implantable device.
- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the coating substance comprises a polymer dissolved in a fluid.

- 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the coating substance further comprises an active agent.
- 10. The method of Claim 9, wherein the active agent is rapamycin, actinomycin D, paclitaxel or docetaxel.
- 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising directing a gaseous composition over the tumbling implantable device to aid drying of the coating substance on to the implantable device.
- 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the gaseous composition comprises air.
- 13. The method of claim 11, wherein the gaseous composition has a temperature between about 15° C and 200° C.
- 14. The method of claim 1, additionally including heating the implantable device prior to the application of the coating substance.
- 15. An implantable device comprising a coating wherein the coating is made by the method set forth in claim 1.
 - 16. A method, comprising:

depositing at least one stent in a pan;

tilting the pan with respect to a horizontal plane such that an axis of the pan extends at an acute angle to the horizontal plane;

rotating the pan about the axis to tumble the stent in the pan; and spraying a coating substance into the rotating pan onto the tumbling stent.

- 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the coating substance comprises a polymer dissolved in a fluid.
- 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the coating substance further comprises an active agent.
- 19. The method of claim 16, additionally comprising blowing air into the rotating pan.
- 20. The method of claim 16, wherein the pan is tilted such that the axis of the pan extends at an angle of about 45 degrees from the horizontal plane.